

(b) Evidence-Presentation Equipment: If either party intends to use electronic, mechanical or other equipment to display evidence at trial, the parties shall confer in an effort to agree on the size, type and location of equipment to be used in the courtroom. If the parties

agree, they shall file their joint proposal on the date on which the final pretrial order is due. If the parties cannot agree, each party shall file its proposal on the date on which the pretrial order is due and may comment on the proposal filed by any other party within two business days thereafter. If one or more of the parties desire to use the Court's Digital Evidence Presentation System (DEPS) at trial or for any pretrial hearing, notice must be given to my courtroom deputy clerk, Ms. Julie Norwood (865/545-4232 ext 285) at least give (5) working days before the hearing or trial. The equipment is shared with other judges and it is recommended that counsel reserve the equipment early.

(c) Pretrial Disclosures: On or before thirty (30) days before trial, the parties shall make all pretrial disclosures specified in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(3), except as to witnesses (see 6(g) below).

(d) All Discovery: All discovery, including the taking of depositions "for evidence," shall be completed by ninety (90) days before trial. (Motions to compel must be filed at least 30 days before this deadline)

(e) Discovery Disputes: Discovery disputes shall be resolved in the following manner:

(1) Parties shall first meet and/or confer in an attempt to resolve disputes between themselves, without judicial intervention; (2) if the parties are unable to resolve such disputes informally, they shall attempt to resolve their disagreement by telephone conference with the Magistrate Judge assigned to this case; (3) if, and only if, the parties are unable to resolve their disputes after conference with the Magistrate Judge, they may file appropriate written motions with the Court, which may be referred to the Magistrate Judge. Any written motions regarding discovery shall include the written certification required by Rule 37(a)(2)(A), if applicable.

5. Pretrial Orders and Pretrial Conferences:

Unless counsel are otherwise directed by the Court, the following shall govern with regard to pretrial orders and conferences in this particular case.

Thirty (30) days before trial, an agreed pretrial order shall be filed with the clerk. The order shall contain the following recitals:

- (f) Jurisdiction.
- (g) That the pleadings are amended to conform to the pretrial order.
- (h) Short summary of plaintiffs' theory.
- (i) Short summary of defendants' theory.
- (j) The issues to be submitted to the trial judge or jury.
- (k) Stipulations of fact.
- (l) Novel or unusual questions of law or evidence.

- (m) Estimated length of trial (in working days).
- (n) Possibility of settlement.
- (o) Miscellaneous matters that may contribute to the just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of the case.

Forty-five (45) days before trial (47 days if service by mail), plaintiffs' counsel **shall** serve opposing counsel with a proposed pretrial order containing the above items except for the theory of defendants. Within five (5) working days after receipt thereof, opposing counsel **shall** furnish plaintiffs' counsel with defendants' theory and advise of any disagreement as to the issues or other matters in the proposed pretrial order. The parties shall make diligent, good faith efforts to reconcile any differences promptly and without the necessity of the Court's intercession. If the parties cannot agree on a pretrial order, plaintiffs' attorney shall notify the undersigned's office at least thirty-one (31) days before trial that the parties have, in a face-to-face conference, been unsuccessful, after a good faith effort, to agree upon a pretrial order. Thereafter, the undersigned may enter a pretrial order to hold a pretrial conference. Counsel will receive specific written instructions on pretrial conference procedures if a pretrial hearing is to take place before the undersigned to prepare a pretrial order. Any pretrial conference for that purpose will be held fourteen (14) to twenty-five (25) days prior to trial. Amendments to pretrial order entered *ex parte* by a judge or magistrate judge may be sought by motion filed five (5) days following entry of the order. Notwithstanding the filing of an agreed pretrial order, a final pretrial conference may be held shortly before trial to address matters which need to be discussed before the time of trial (*See* No. 7 below).

Failure to file an agreed pretrial order or to notify the undersigned's office that one cannot be agreed upon as required herein may be deemed a failure to prosecute the action. See Rule 41(b), Fed. R. Civ. P.

6. Other Scheduling Matters:

(b) Dispositive Motions: All dispositive motions under Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 and all motions for summary judgment pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 56 shall be filed as soon as possible, but no later than one hundred twenty (120) days before trial. The failure to timely file such motions will be grounds to summarily deny them. Upon filing any dispositive motion, or any other motion (or responsive pleading) which exceeds twenty-five (25) pages (including attachments), a courtesy hard copy shall be mailed or hand delivered to chambers.

(c) Motion in Limine: All motions in limine must be filed no later than thirty (30) days before trial. Should a hearing be directed by the Court in regard to such motions *in limine*, the parties will be notified of the date and time therefore. Otherwise, such motions *in limine* shall be addressed by the Court at the final pretrial conference. (see No, 7 below).

(d) Daubert Hearing: Motions seeking a Daubert hearing must be filed at least ninety (90) days before trial or they will be deemed waived.

(f) Special Requests to Instruct for Jury Trial: Pursuant to Local Rule 51.1, special requests for jury instructions shall be submitted to the Court no later than thirty (30) days

before trial and shall be supported by citations of authority pursuant to Local Rule 7.4. There is reserved to counsel for the respective parties the right to submit supplemental requests for instructions during the course of the trial or at the conclusion of trial upon matters that cannot be reasonably anticipated.

(g) **Exhibits:** All anticipated exhibits will be labeled and numbered prior to trial. At the inception of trial, counsel will furnish the Court with two (2) copies of their exhibit lists, so numbered.

(h) **Witness Lists:** Forty-five (45) days before trial, the parties shall file a final witness list covering the information specified in Rule 26(a)(3). Within five (5) days after service of a final witness list, such list may be supplemented.

(i) **Trial Briefs:** At least seven (7) days before trial, the parties must file trial briefs concerning any novel or unusual questions of law that have been highlighted in the pretrial order.

(j) **Use of Depositions at Trial:** In the event that a party files an objection within the time specified by Rule 26(a) to the use under Rule 32(a) of a deposition designated by another party under subparagraph (B) of Rule 26(a)(3), or any objection, together with the grounds therefore, that may be made to the admissibility of materials identified under subparagraph (C) of Rule 26(a)(3), and desires the Court to consider such objection or objections to be in the nature of a motion *in limine*, such objections shall be accompanied by a brief in support of such objection/motion *in limine*. Should a hearing be directed by the Court regarding such motions *in limine*, the parties shall be notified of the date and time thereof. Counsel are reminded that objections not so disclosed, other than objections under Rules 402 and 403, Federal Rules of Evidence, shall be deemed waived unless excused by the Court for good cause shown.

7. **Final Pretrial Conference:** A final pretrial conference shall be held in this case on **October 29, 2007, at 3:00 p.m.**

8. **Trial:** The trial of this case will be held before the undersigned with a jury beginning on **November 6, 2007, at 9:00 a.m.**

If there are any preliminary matters, counsel shall be present at 8:30 a.m. to take up any such matters which may require the Court's attention. The parties shall be prepared to commence trial at 9:00 a.m. on the date which has been assigned. If this case is not heard immediately, it will be held in line until the following day or anytime during the week of the scheduled trial date.

All other scheduling order deadlines shall be the same as stated in the Court's Scheduling Order (Doc. No. 12) and the Court's Order of January 23, 2007 (Doc. No. 23).

s/ C. Clifford Shirley, Jr.
United States Magistrate Judge

APPROVED FOR ENTRY:

/s/ H. Douglas Nichol
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